

Commonwealth of Kentucky

STATE SENATE

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35TH SENATE DISTRICT

August 11, 2010

Mr. John J. Johnson, Executive Director
Kentucky Commission on Human Rights
332 W. Broadway, Suite 700
Louisville, KY 40202

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Sadly, throughout the history of the world there have been men, women, and children denied basic freedoms that should have been guaranteed because they are human beings. Even in our own country – founded so we could live freely – men have held other human beings in bondage as slaves and have denied those same people the freedoms that others enjoyed. Fortunately, those wrongs have been righted. However, the freedom declared after the Civil War did not necessarily ensure equality for all our people. Approximately 100 years later, Kentucky passed its Civil Rights Act to make discrimination illegal, prompted primarily because of the segregation against African Americans. However, others – because of their race or religion -- have also experienced the hatred associated with discrimination. Even women have been denied their rights because of their gender and have had to fight their own battle to be seen as equals of men.

Following the civil rights movement, the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights was created to ensure equality and to protect against discrimination. The Commission enforces and promotes Kentucky's Civil Rights Act as well as the federal civil rights laws.

The Kentucky Commission on Human Rights has served as a watchdog in our state for 50 years to ensure that we all have the freedoms we are entitled. Kentucky proudly has the distinction of having the oldest human rights commission south of the Mason-Dixon line.

The Kentucky Commission on Human Rights has served our state very well and has helped to make the Commonwealth a better place to live for all people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise Harper Angel".

Denise Harper Angel
State Senator
35th District